



THE CONNECTOR
 “Welcoming All...
 Making Disciples...
 Taking Christ to the World”
 October 14, 2009
 Vol. 1 Number 7



Sunday Schedule

9 AM Sanctuary Service
 10:15 AM Sunday School
 11:11 AM Catch the Flame Service

COMING EVENTS

October 27, 2009

We will have our annual Charge Conference at 7PM please come and be a part of this very important night.

Community Meal– October 28th

We will have a special guest from Central District Health .

**Church Bazaar , November 7th and
 Fall Festival Nov.8th**



Sign up sheets are now available in the gathering area—please be sure to take a look and see where you can help—no more space to sign up—then just come and enjoy these events—do a little Christmas shopping, have dinner with friends, help support some of our special projects—make it a great

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Our Church Staff

Pastor	Barbara Nixon	288-1394 Hm 991-8464 Cell revbabs2000@gmail.com
Minister of Congregational Care & Discipleship	Janine Watkins	336-1991 janine.watkins@hillviewmethodist.org
Director of Emerging Ministries	Jeff Thompson	208-830-5777 jeff.thompson@hillviewmethodist.org
Director of Music	Gene Lubiens	989-5981 glubiens@hotmail.com
Organist/Pianist	Suzanne Walch	514-5945 Scrappy1348@rocketmail.com
Secretary	Claudia Flora	375-0392 claudia.flora@hillviewmethodist.org
Youth Directors	Claire Chambers	761-7528 cilonpre@yahoo.com
	Jeff Thompson	208-830-5777 jeff.thompson@hillviewmethodist.org
Custodian	Mariya Gavrilutsa	
Nursery Director	Peggy Sheldon	888-4566

TREASURER'S REPORT

Month	Income	Expenses	Difference	YTD (+/-)
Jan	\$24,726	\$28,566	\$-3,840	\$-3,840
Feb	\$26,313	\$29,180	\$-2,867	\$-6,707
Mar	\$33,011	\$27,772	\$+5,329	\$-1,468
Apr	\$32,026	\$27,184	\$+4,842	\$+3,374
May	\$34,160	\$28,716	\$+5,444	\$+8,818
Jun	\$26,880	\$28,978	\$-2,098	\$+6,716
Jul	\$24,105	\$29,725	\$-5,620	\$+1,096
Aug	\$36,661	\$29,062	\$+7,599	\$+8,695
Sep	\$27,030	\$34,482	\$- 7,452	\$+1,243

We slipped a bit!

If you have questions about this information contact
Sam Goodwin, 376-5383.

Random Musings

I usually like to write thoughtful, provocative pieces for my newsletter articles, but I must use this space one more time to keep you up-to-date about the many things that are happening in our church community. The Church Tenets process is just about complete. Many of you have joined the conversation and the results are printed in this newsletter. This version will **LIKELY** be the one that is voted on at Church Council on October 27th at 6pm and, if they approve, we will formally adopt them at the All Church Conference that follows at 7pm. It is not too late to add your voice by email or phone if you have been unable to attend any of the conversations (revbabs2000@gmail.com or my cell @ 991-8464).

I hope that you will take the time on Tuesday, Oct 27 at 7pm to come to the All Church Conference—where we vote in our church leaders, adopt our tenets and make other important decisions about the life and future of Hillview. Please come...

This fall, your boards and committees are prayerfully making important decisions on behalf of us all. Some are charged with the work of examining finances, staffing needs and worship opportunities. Others are looking at how we bring people into the life of Hillview; how we care for one another here; how we grow our faith; how we minister within and beyond our walls. This is big stuff! And, all of these decisions are interconnected. One decision leads to another and another and gradually a clear picture begins to emerge. As your pastor, it is my job to guide this decision process, based on what I have discerned and discovered by listening and learning these past four months. It is my task to hold “the big picture,” keeping communication open between the various committees as they do their work. I take this responsibility very seriously. And, I do this work joyfully. The Spirit of God is moving here at Hillview. God is offering us many loving possibilities! Our task is to choose among them and move forward trusting God’s love and grace in and through it all.

I seek your prayers on behalf of your church leaders as they do this work. I ask you to keep your heart and mind open as things shift. I encourage you to be patient and positive as things unfold, trusting that a clear picture of what is possible will emerge from all this good work. May God continue to bless our efforts in the name of love. Amen.



Lady Veterans Luncheon

You are invited to join a group of Hillview women who are involved in a hands-on service project by putting on a luncheon for the ladies at the Veterans Hospital.

What does this involve?—decorating the tables, taking paper products and real silverware, and providing home prepared food (casseroles, salads, and fresh fruit).

The group of eight women who started this had such a rewarding experience that we decided to do it each month on the 2nd Tuesday of each month and invite all women who are interested to join us. If you might be interested but need more information please call me (Darlene at 376-5977) or there will be a sign up sheet each month on the UMW bulletin board right next to the door to the kitchen. The activities director out there told us that nothing like this has ever been done for the lady veterans and that they were elated with the event.



Church Bazaar—Nov. 7th 10AM—3PM

Be sure to have your items to the church on or before Nov. 6th so they can be arranged for the sale on Saturday Nov. 7th. Please have baked goods clearly marked for the bazaar.

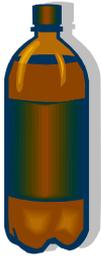
Fall Festival—Nov. 8th—5PM

Be sure to have your items (clearly marked) to the church as soon as possible (except food items) so we can start the silent auction— we will have items available to bid on for three Sundays, October 25, November 1 & 8 and the final bidding opportunity will, of course, be Sunday night at the dinner.



Bead Class—Oct. 24 and 31 at 1PM

We will have a beading class for beginners of all ages. This is an opportunity for beaders of all levels to get together and work on projects for the Church Bazaar.. Experienced beaders are encouraged to come share their tips and techniques.



Our YOUTH need you! Or more specifically your food or beverage. They would love to have homemade or storebought treats for youth group each Sunday night at 5 pm. Please see the sign-up sheet on the Youth Bulletin board next to the church kitchen for more information and to sign up...



FAITH, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

Join a Dinner Group!



It's not too late to join one of our Faith, Food & Fellowship dinner groups! Three of our four groups met in September; two of these groups have room for more people. The fourth group will meet only in October and November; they also have space. Each group meets in a host home once a month, September-November. The dinner is a potluck, organized by the host. This is a wonderful time to share food and faith while getting to know fellow members. Singles are welcome! Sign-up sheets are on a table in the gathering area. For more information, call Debbie Mallis, Chair of Discipleship & Evangelism, at 853-2740.

Hillview Youth Ministry

Calendar

October

18th Crop Walk! 1 to ??? We'll be walking the 6 mile loop. Parents, please join us if you're able! Watch for sponsorship packets/info to come home in early October. Friends and family who live out of town can sponsor you on-line.

25th 5:00-6:30 Youth Group...crafting in the youth house! Bring an old t-shirt or two and we'll be making pillows and other such things to sell at the all church bazaar on Nov. 7th.

*What does youth group look like? It's mix of games, music and devotional for students in grades 7 through 12! This is a place where you can bring your friends and come hang out somewhere safe and encouraging. If you want to go deeper in your relationship with God, we'll be offering small group studies later this fall.

In the works...

Youth Band! Play an instrument? Let us know so we can get you on the list!

Questions? Contact Claire 761-7528 cilongpre@yahoo.com
or Jeff 830-5777 big7171@hotmail.com



First Fruits Winter Project "Give From Abundance"



Please bring coats, hats, gloves, scarves, boots, winter shoes, vests,

mittens, sweatshirts, caps, sleeping bags & blankets! Any winter wear including new socks and underwear.



All gifts to go to Corpus Christi for those living on our streets and in shelters.

START NOW! In the spirit of first fruits, give from your abundance rather than purchasing. Some how we all have enough.



Live simply, so others can simply live.

Hillview UMC Tenets
Working draft... October, 2009

As a community of faith at Hillview United Methodist Church...

- 1) We are committed to deepening our trust in the unconditional love of God, shown to us through the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.
- 2) We share a faith journey that is grounded in questions and the search for understanding rather than in certainty and absolute answers. It is up to each of us as individuals to be faithful—to God, to ourselves and to each other-- through study, worship, prayer, reflection and action in the world.
- 3) We recognize that following Jesus Christ is difficult. We have responsibilities that entail unselfish love and the constant resistance to self-interest and apathy.
- 4) We know that the fullest, truest expression of what we believe about God is revealed in how we behave towards ourselves and others.
- 5) We work (often in collaboration with other organizations and faith communities) to minister with people whose struggles include hunger, poverty & homelessness. We share also in a responsibility to address the issues that create these circumstances in people's lives.
- 6) We see one of our growth areas as learning how to better support one another in the work we feel called to do in Christ's name—locally & globally—whether it be striving for peace and justice; protecting, sustaining and repairing the earth; bringing help and hope to those people who struggle; or other loving work.
- 7) We know that following Jesus is, for us, the way to God. We know that other faithful people have other ways to God and that these ways are true for them.
- 8) We are learning to welcome all persons fully into our midst, striving for better understanding and celebration of the diversity God has created in humanity.
- 9) We gather for worship each week where we experience the presence of God's love and healing with joy and gratitude.
- 10) We gather in small groups for study, prayer and fellowship—to strengthen our faith in God; to build trust for each other; to become more open & honest in our places of pain & struggle; to learn how to share our faith.

We see ourselves as a work in progress and we know we always will be. Together we are learning to rely on God for courage, wisdom and inspiration.

Thoughts on the Consultant Process

By Ron Halverson

Many of you have asked “Whatever happened with the Consultants – and what were the results?” Those of us who have had many dealings with consultants were expecting a finished report, with a list of items to do in order to “fix” all of our problems. Instead, what we found was that these were not “traditional” consultants at all, nor was the process that they led us through. As we struggled to determine what Hillview’s identity is, we finally came to the realization that what Hillview is today is not what it was yesterday, nor what it will be tomorrow. We are on a journey, and constantly changing based on the needs of the surrounding community and the current members. If this seems ambiguous, then you are not alone. What we found was that each person seemed to come away from the process with ideas and feelings that may have not quite been the same as their neighbor. Over the next few months, we will publish some of these findings.

Below are some of my “revelations”. One of the biggest revelations to me was that most churches develop a vision or mission statement based on who they want to be or what direction they want to go. They concentrate on internal programs, make statements like “we need more youth – let’s hire some dynamic youth minister”, and believe that we need to take care of our members first, then with what is left over we can help others. They become “internally focused”, with over 90% of their budget consumed by staff salaries, utilities, maintenance, and internal programs that mostly benefit the members who attend on Sunday. As church leaders gather to develop a vision for the church, they poll members, hold numerous meetings, and re-word the statements over and over again trying to get it just right. In the end, we triumphantly announce our new vision statement, one that everyone has had a chance for input, and that we can all agree that this is what direction we want Hillview to go in for the next few years. The big shocker to me from the consultant process was that we really should NOT be asking “Where does Hillview want to go?”, but rather “Where does God want Hillview to go?”

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When we ask the latter question, you start to look at some of the things you are doing much differently. Does God really want us to spend so much money on ourselves? Do we even know who are neighbors are in the community? How much of our ministry is external versus internal? Those pesky consultants sure opened up a can of worms and made me feel uncomfortable.

I believe we all now have a chance to prayerfully consider the question “Where does God want Hillview to go?” as we continue the journey by developing the tenets that Barbara has led us through. Notice that I said that she helped lead us – they are not her tenets, they are ones we must ask God for help in guiding us. And we know that when we ask God for guidance, sometimes he wants us to go in directions that are uncomfortable and unfamiliar.

AN INVITATION...

If you are new to Hillview and wondering how to deepen your connection,

If you have been involved at Hillview for some time but aren't sure about officially joining the church,

If you have faith questions that aren't quite being addressed,

PLEASE LET ME KNOW!

I am wanting to work with you to meet these kinds of needs.

Slip me a note... give me a call...drop by my office...

Thanks. Pastor Barbara

Membership Update

We are updating our records and still need your help—we need address information on for the following :

Dan Allen, David Duke, Mary Unruh

If you do have information please call or email the church office at 375-0392 (churchoffice@hillviewmethodist.org)

Thank you to everyone who has responded!

FALL SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

The 2009-2010 “school year” classes offered on Sunday mornings at 10:15 am-11 am are listed below. Look over the classes and attend a class that will stimulate your faith journey.

Classes for Adults:

“Journey Through the Bible”, leaders, Lilburn Wesche, David Barber & Robert Linkhart (Library/Parlor)

This class will be an in depth, sequential study of the Bible, beginning with the book of Genesis.

“Jesus and Java”, leaders Jan Worthington and Ethyl Minnis (room 3)

This class enjoys fellowship and discussions on contemporary issues viewed through the Christian lens.

“Simple Living”, leaders Joe and Vicki Prin; (Youth House) on how to put your faith into action.

“Sermon Talk Back” , leader, Pastor Barbara; (Ballantyne Hall)

This class offers dialog between Pastor Barbara and you about the sermon—you can attend every Sunday or drop in when you would like to discuss the sermon.

Youth Class, (6th-12th grade) leaders Michelle Ward and Kit Parker; (Youth House)

The curriculum *BLAY--Bible Lessons for Youth--* offers youth an opportunity to focus on how Scripture relates to their lives today.

Children’s Class (4yr.-5th grade) leaders Judy Halverson and Adrienne Gustafson; (Rm 10)

The Way of the Child is a new approach to helping children in their spiritual formation. A quiet, reflective environment with various stations to visit will be offered for our children.

Questions about classes? Contact Judy Halverson, 327-0541,

rdhalverso@aol.com.



THIRD GRADE BIBLES

Hillview has a long tradition of giving our children a Bible when they are in third grade or higher. On Oct. 11th, Bibles were given to third graders Ryan Hanson, Apryl Peterson, and Katie Nelson; fourth grader Christian Sprague; fifth grader Tyler Gallas; and seventh grader Amory Zuchhero.

HILLVIEW U.M.W. CALENDAR CORNER

FUTURE FUNCTIONS...

Unit Meeting—November 14th
Christmas Gathering December 5th

MONTHLY CIRCLE MEETINGS

Morning Book Group

2nd Monday of the month/ 10:00 A.M.
Borders Books at the Mall
Contact person:
George Ann Morris – 853-2729

Evening Book Group

2nd Monday of the month / 6:30 P.M.
Church Kitchen/ Meal provided
Contact person:
Darlene Smith 376-5977

Fellowship Circle

2nd Thursday of the month 7 p.m.
Contact person: Betsy Baughman

Lydia Circle (Study Group)

First and Third Tuesdays/ 9:30-11:00 A.M.
Church Parlor
Contact Person: Judy Halverson 327-0541

Coming Events

Ladies mark your calendars for these important events:

Make note there will be a change of time for our November Unit Meeting. It will be held on Saturday morning, Nov. 14th at 10:00 A.M. We are hoping to include those of you who do not care to be out at night.

It's not too early to plan on attending the Christmas Gathering December 5th at 10:00. Good food and fellowship. Plan now to join us!

Want to spread joy and meet some very interesting ladies? Circle the 2nd Tuesday of each month and have lunch with our Lady Vets. Check the UMW bulletin board and sign up 5 or 6 Hillview friends to take lunch to these special women. It is a fun, rewarding experience!

From the Mail



Dear Hillview,

Thank you so much for helping pay for camp. It was great to get a letter from Judy. My favorite part was sleeping under the stars. I hope I can go back to camp next year.

Your Friend,

Natalie Baughman

(this came with a picture of campers sleeping under the stars that is now on the Camp bulletin board)

To my church family,

Thank you for your continued loving support of my seminary education. Your prayers and kind words help me through papers and Greek vocab. Your financial support means I haven't had to choose between books and groceries.

School has been interesting so far. I'm a student pastor at Sherwood UMC—you will all be happy to know that I started Valentine's Day cookie boxes for college students here! (No, They won't send me one *hint hint*). I know this is where I'm supposed to be and I couldn't do it without all of you.

Many thanks,

Janessa Chastain

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (this was written in Greek at the bottom of Janessa's card with the note that it was the first Greek she had to translate.

Our Prayers

If you like to add someone to our Prayer Chain please call the church office (375-0392) or Linda Sherrets (377-3248 or linbud@juno.com).

As you pray please remember the entire family of those listed here and in your hearts

*Pray with concern for - **Lewis & Trulah Mills—Ruth Green— John Stafford— Margaret Hartley—Phyllis Barth.***

*Pray in sympathy with—**The family of Roger Enlow—** The family of Lucille Hansen - Bruce and Bobbi Cleveland on the death of his mother,*

*Pray for those serving beyond the local church: **Hillview's VIM Team***

Pray for our seminary student—Janessa Chastain



Please add these names of military to the list of those we pray for as they are away from family and friends serving their country - Jordan—Air Force-Iraq, Dustin Soper-Iraq, Cara Hammond—Air Force—Mississippi, Spec. Christopher Fabela—Army - Sgt. Willie Fabela- U.S.M.C.—Iraq.

SEPTEMBER INCOME

	<u>FOR</u>	
Checks/Envelopes	\$25,934	
Loose Plate	\$487	
Facilities Donations	\$550	
Supervalue	\$59	
General Fund Receipts		\$27,030
Building Fund	\$213	
Sunday School	\$139	
Community Ministries	\$115	
Corpus Christi	\$115	
Audio/Visual Fund	\$15	
Janessa Chastain Scholarship Fund	\$25	
VIM	\$70	
UMCOR	\$20	
Community Meals	\$10	
Memorials and/or Endowments	\$25	
Other Receipts		\$747
TOTAL		\$27,777



Visit us online at
www.hillviewmethodist.org

Janessa Chastain, our seminary student, has created a blog to help us follow her progress. If you would like to check on her the link is <http://janessac.blogspot.com>

Did You Know—that you can contact your bank and have them send a check to Hillview as often as you specify (week, month, etc.), in the amount that you specify, and you don't have to worry about remembering to write a check?

The service is free and the bank will notify you in your monthly bank statement and/or they will email you when it is done.

Contact your bank. It is easy to setup.

Several have found that this works great!



CATCH THE FLAME

11:11 a.m. each Sunday in the air-conditioned Sanctuary.

Come explore new ways to connect with God in worship! Join Jeff as he leads this service using a wide variety of prayer,

music, technology, ritual, and word. If you are interested in finding out more about what goes on each week at the Catch the Flame service check us out on the web at www.myspace.com/catchtheflameboise



Lunch Bunch

We will meet at Kopper Kitchen (2661 Airport Way—go up Vista to Airport Way turn left, restaurant is on the right) on October 8th at 11:30am There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex or call the church office at 375-0392 to be added to the list.

Commitment to Hillview's Community Meal

Our Community Meal needs your involvement if we are going to continue this special ministry among our neighbors.

In these next three months, will you volunteer your efforts in one or more of the ways listed below? You'll get a phone call to pin down date/s & details. Questions? Call the Church office at 375-0392

Thank you!

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Yes, please call me with details about how I might help in the following ways.

_____ Advance Publicity

_____ Set up for the meal (5:15 or earlier if that works better)

_____ Set up tables (a little muscle required)

_____ Serving food, monitoring food/drinks

_____ Clean up (about 6:45 to about 7:30)

_____ Take down tables (a little muscle required)

_____ Attend the meal, bringing a large side dish, salad, or dessert & do my best to visit with a few folks I don't know yet.

_____ Provide a large salad or dessert even if I can't come in person

A very special **THANK YOU** to **Darlene Smith** for organizing & supervising the Community Meals for the last 15 months. She has given us a good foundation on which to continue to build.